" I thank the hon. Members and I thank you, Sir, for affording me the opportunity for bringing in this Bill to-day and passing it so expeditiously. Sir, it may be that some amendments may be required in future for this Bill, but I might mention that clauses 5, 6 and 7 are intended against three kinds of persons—first of all, the person who sacrifices, secondly the person who acts as the 'pujari' and thirdly the person who permits the thing to be done. That is the scope of the Bill and if necessary, no doubt, some amendments may be brought to the Bill in future. I thank you, Sir.".

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The question is—

'that the Bill to abolish animal sacrifices in connexion with Hindu temples be passed into law.' "

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

(2) THE MADRAS WAKF BILL, 1947 (L.C. BILL NO. 3 OF 1947).

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I move, Sir—

'*that the Madras Wakf Bill, 1947, be taken into consideration immediately*'.

" Sir, the wakfs (endowments) are mismanaged and the money misappropriated. Wakf properties in many cases are alienated and sold and sometimes held by trespassers on account of which there is wasteful litigation. No accounts are maintained by Muthawallis; wakf property has come to be treated as personal and private property. The Bill seeks to establish a Board more or less on the lines of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board, subject to the supervision of the Provincial Government, and to remedy the defects that are prevalent. It provides for the registration of wakfs. Muthawallis are obliged to maintain accounts. The Wakf Al-ul-aulad is also brought under the control of the proposed Board. The Board is authorized to appoint and remove Muthawallis. The Dargahs and Mukhbiras are also brought under the supervision and control of the Board. Procedure in respect of judicial proceedings is also provided for in this Bill. The Bill does not interfere with the succession of the Muthawallis except in the case of the Prince of Arcot's endowments which are controlled by a separate Act of 1923, which shuts out the jurisdiction of the courts and bars all suits against the Muthawallis and hence that Act is sought to be repealed, and the management of these wakfs is sought to be vested in a representative body.

" I do not think, Sir, there is time now to explain in greater detail the aims and objects of this Bill. Therefore, I simply now move, for the consideration of this Bill and request the Government to view this measure with sympathy."

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN :—" I second it. Sir."

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* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Sir, this is a measure which concerns an influential community, particularly on matters of religion. Of course, the arguments in these days is that being a secular State, Government must not interfere with these religious endowments. That argument has come up very much in the forefront on account of the framing of the Constitution Act in Delhi. The same argument has been brought against the Government in the consideration of the new Religious Endowments Bill which we are trying to introduce immediately. Therefore, the reason is more with regard to the Wakf Bill which has been introduced just now. In taking the responsibility for the matter, I should like the Bill to be thrown open for public opinion, public opinion particularly from persons concerned in the management of the wakfs and the religious institutions there. Therefore, Sir, I am prepared to accept the Bill provided it is circulated for public opinion. After going through the representations, Government will be in a position to consider the matter and to say whether the Bill can be sponsored by the Government. With that proviso, Sir, I am prepared to accept the motion."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The question is—

'that the Madras Wakf Bill 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 3 of 1947), be circulated for the purpose of eliciting public opinion thereon '."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I am prepared to accept it, Sir."

The motion was put and carried.

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know whether there is any time-limit under the rules by which public opinion should be got? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" There is no time-limit mentioned here. Rule 76 of the Council Rules merely says :

' *Where a motion that a Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon is carried and the Bill is circulated in accordance with that direction and opinions are received thereon, the member in charge if he wishes to proceed with his Bill thereafter, must move that the Bill be preferred to a Select Committee; unless the President, in the exercise of his power to suspend this rule, allows a motion to be made that the Bill be taken into consideration* '."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" The practice is to fix a date."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" We will do it in the notification and say that information will be received up to such and such a date. What time does the hon. the Mover think will be enough? "

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—Three months, Sir."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I think six months are necessary. There is no use hurrying a matter like this. It must have six months.'

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" The Bill was published in the Gazette long ago. Such representations as the people have had to make could have been made already. I think, Sir, six months means that the Bill will never come before this Council at all."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I do not agree there. This measure should have public support. As far as we are concerned, we want that public opinion should be got on this Bill. Hindus being in a majority in this House and in this Province, I want to make it clear that in passing such a measure, we should give sufficient time. Therefore, even if it is published immediately, it may require some time in getting the replies and in consolidating them. Therefore, six months' time is absolutely necessary."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Even if the hon. the Mover says, three months, it practically means that it cannot come before the House before August or September because the House will be prorogued after March and it will perhaps meet again only in August or September. Therefore, I think that six months' time may be put in there."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Six months after the publication."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I suppose after six months, it will be placed before this House. I only request the Government to publish the Bill as early as possible so that it may come up before the House at least after six months."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It will be published immediately."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I take it, Sir, that the other non-official business on the agenda will be carried to the next non-official day? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Yes."

III.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* MADRAS GOVERNMENT BUS TRANSPORT STRIKE—*cont.*

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Mr. President, Sir, I rise to condemn and condemn strongly the bus strike which is on in the City of Madras, a strike, Sir, without notice, a strike accompanied by hooliganism, a strike which is not really against the Government who are the employers but against the travelling public of this City. Sir, in condemning the bus strike, I feel sure that I voice the opinion of every Member of this House. The public have suffered inconvenience, trouble and unnecessary expenditure and many of them have also been hurt. Employees of public utility services in which the public are interested and by which the public are served should not rush in for strikes. Sir, I want to make it clear that in condemning and in condemning strongly this strike, I do not want to create the impression that I am against providing for adequate remuneration, wages and facilities